

## **Buffalo Medical Group Going Smoke-Free July 1** *Smoking Prohibited at all BMG locations including parking lots*

WILLIAMSVILLE, NY – Buffalo Medical Group, PC, will soon join the rapidly growing list of smoke-free companies, organizations and facilities locally and nationally. Beginning July 1, smoking will not be permitted on any BMG properties, including its main locations in Williamsville, Orchard Park and at 85 High Street on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus.

With the institution of the new policy, the BNMC that includes Buffalo General Hospital, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute and several other entities, will be virtually smoke free.

In announcing BMG's decision to prohibit smoking at all of its facilities, Chief Executive Officer Daniel J. Scully, said the new policy underscores the organization's efforts to improve the health and well-being of its patients, staff and physicians.

"Statistics don't lie. Smoking claims the lives of more than 400,000 people in the United States each year and leads to lost productivity and increased health care costs totaling at least \$50 billion annually," he asserted. "This is about protecting the lives of our patients and employees," Scully remarked, noting that smoking has taken the lives of people in his family as well as family members of numerous BMG employees.

The new policy applies to all employees, patients, visitors, interns, vendors and others who access BMG medical offices. Smoke-free areas include all buildings, grounds and surrounding sidewalks such as those at the 85 High Street location.

In preparation for implementation of the no smoking policy, several forms of communication have been used to alert BMG employees about the July 1 date. In the next few days, no smoking signage will begin appearing at all BMG locations.

In addition, support will be provided to all BMG employees who desire to stop smoking via smoking cessation programs including the New York State Smokers Quit Line, 1-866-NY-QUITS (1-866-697-8487) or [www.nysmokefree.com](http://www.nysmokefree.com).

Founded in 1946, Buffalo Medical Group, PC, is among the oldest and largest multi-specialty physician practice groups in New York State. With 90 specialists and sub-specialists as well as a team of 660 nurses, technologists, and other health care professionals, BMG records more than 400,000 outpatient visits annually at its main locations in Buffalo, Williamsville, and Orchard Park and 24 satellite sites.